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Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

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APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE
EUR/EE:NANDREWS
S/S-O:RELTZ
D:MASAMUELS
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R 170740Z JUL 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
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AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL ZURICH
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY LISBON
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, US
SUBJECT: BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING (BIB) MEETS
WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY

1. SUMMARY: BIB CHAIRMAN DR. DAVID ABSHIRE AND OTHER
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BOARD MEMBERS BRIEFED DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL ON JULY 16

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ABOUT RECENT BIB ACTIVITIES. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY ASSURED THE BOARD THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD GIVE THE BIB, RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY ALL THE SUPPORT IT POSSIBLY COULD. END SUMMARY.

2. DR. ABSHIRE TOLD THE DEPUTY SECRETARY THAT AFTER MEETING WITH FOUR CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES SINCE COMING INTO BEING ON APRIL 30, THE BOARD IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ITS FUTURE WORK. IT EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO REPORT FAVORABLY TO THE CONGRESS NEXT YEAR ABOUT CONSOLIDATION OF SOME OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE RADIOS. ANOTHER AREA OF CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN, EUROPEAN FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RADIOS, IS BEING WORKED ON. THE BIB NOW PROPOSES TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS WITH EUROPEANS TO THAT END. DR. ABSHIRE WILL SHORTLY GO TO EUROPE. THE BIB BELIEVES THAT ANY EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD ONLY COME AFTER A STRONG PUSH BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE CONGRESS.

3. IN RESPONSETO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S QUESTION, DR. ABSHIRE SAID THAT CONGRESS WOULD VOTE FUNDS FOR THE RADIOS WITHOUT BURDEN SHARING BUT ONLY IF WE PUSH HARD TO OBTAIN EUROPEAN FUNDING. OPPOSITION TO THE RADIOS IN THE CONGRESS IS LIMITED IN EXTENT BUT PERMANENT AND ORGANIZED. IT IS NOT NOW PROMPTED BY THE CONCEPT OF THE RADIOS BUT BY FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS. ABSHIRE SAID THAT WE MUST INSURE THAT THE EUROPEAN FUNDING QUESTION DOES NOT BECOME THE ACHILLES' HEEL THREATENING THE FUTURE EXISTENCE OF THE RADIOS. KISSINGER

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Concepts: US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, RADIO BROADCASTING
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Draft Date: 17 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
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